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General Assembly

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Fifty-fifth session
Sixth Committee

Organization of work

Note by the Secretariat

1. In order to assist the Sixth Committee in the organization of its work, the Secretariat finds it appropriate, in the light of General Assembly resolutions 1898 (XVIII) of 11 November 1963 and 32/71 of 9 December 1977 and of rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, to draw the attention of the Sixth Committee to the following.

I. Items allocated to the Sixth Committee

2. At its 9th plenary meeting, on 11 September 2000, the General Assembly decided to allocate 14 items to the Sixth Committee. The titles of those items and their numbers are reproduced in the letter dated 11 September 2000 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Sixth Committee (A/C.6/55/2).

II. Documentation relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee

3. The following table lists the documents of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly relating to the items allocated to the Sixth Committee. It includes references to the reports of commissions or committees and the reports that are to be submitted by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolutions or decisions of the Assembly at preceding sessions, as well as to the documents circulated under the agenda items allocated to the Sixth Committee,[1] in accordance with requests of Member States.

[1] The figure in brackets after the title of each item indicates its number on theagenda of the fifty-fifth session. The listing of documents is based on information available as at 11 September 2000.

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	Projected date of issuance
Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [154]	
[/]No advance documentation.	
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [155]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/55/173 and Corr.1 and Add.1)	Issued and 13 October
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [156]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/55/164 and Add.1)	Issued and 11 October
Letter dated 18 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/161-S/2000/714)	Issued
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [157]	
Report of the Secretary-General (A/55/298)	Mid-October
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-third session [158]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/55/17)	22 September
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-second session [159]	
Report of the Commission, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 10* (A/55/10)	End-September
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [160]	
No advance documentation.	
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [161]	

	Projected date of issuance
Report of the Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/55/26)	Early November
Establishment of the International Criminal Court [162]	
Proceedings of the Preparatory Commission at its fifth session (PCNICC/2000/L.3/Rev.1 and Add.1 and 2)[2]	Issued
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [163]	
Report of the Special Committee, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/55/33)	Issued
Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions (A/55/295 and Add.1)	25 September and early October
Report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* (A/55/340)	End September
Letter dated 11 July 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/133-S/2000/682)	Issued
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [164]	
Report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 37* (A/55/37)	Issued
Draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism (A/C.6/55/1)	18 September
Report of the Secretary-General (A/55/179 and Add.1)	21 September and early November

[2] See also PCNICC/2000/INF/3 and Add.1 and 2.

	Projected date of issuance
Letter dated 2 May 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Armenia and Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/68-S/2000/377)	Issued
Letter dated 19 June 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/86-S/2000/604)	Issued
Letter dated 11 July 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/133-S/2000/682)	Issued
Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal [165]	
No advance documentation.	
Observer status for the Inter-American Development Bank in the General Assembly [171]	
Letter dated 27 July 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/192)	Issued
Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [172]	
Letter dated 14 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/226)	Issued

III. Date for concluding the work of the Committee, order and approximate dates of consideration of items

4. Rule 99 (b) of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly provides that:

> "Each Main Committee, taking into account the closing date for the session fixed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the General Committee, shall adopt its own priorities and meet as may be necessary to complete the consideration of the items referred to it. It shall at the beginning of the session adopt a programme of work indicating, if possible, a target date for the conclusion of its work, the approximate dates of consideration of items and the number of meetings to be allocated to each item."

5. Bearing in mind the allocation of the number of meetings available to the Sixth Committee, indicated in paragraph 11 below, it is proposed that the Committee set a target date of 21 November 2000 for the conclusion of its work.

6. The Sixth Committee may wish to consider, for the purpose of adopting its programme of work, the following timetable, drawn up on the basis of the relevant General Assembly resolutions as well as previous programmes of work adopted by the Committee, which indicates approximate dates of consideration of agenda items referred to it:

	Approximate dates of consideration
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [164] (Working Group) (see para. 8 below)	25 September-6 October 2000
Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-third session [158]	9-10 October
Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [163]	11-13 October
Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [154]	16 October
Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal [165]	16-17 October
Establishment of the International Criminal Court [162]	18-20 October
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives [156]	18 October
Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts [155]	20 October
Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-second session [159]	23 October-3 November
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [157] (Working Group) (see para. 7 below)	6-8 November
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [160]	9-10 November
Observer status for the Inter-American Development Bank in the General Assembly [171]	10 November

	Approximate dates of consideration
Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [172]	10 November
Measures to eliminate international terrorism [164]	13-15 November
Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [161]	15 November
Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [157]	16 November
Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States [160]	17 November
Reserve	20-21 November

IV. Establishment of working groups and holding of consultations

7. As regards agenda item 157, entitled, "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property", the General Assembly, by its resolution 54/101 of 9 December 1999, decided that the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee established under General Assembly resolution 53/98 of 8 December 1998 would continue its work at the fifty-fifth session to consider the future form of, and outstanding substantive issues related to, the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session.

8. Concerning agenda item 164, entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism", the General Assembly, by its resolution 54/110 of 9 December 1999, decided that the work of the Ad Hoc Committee established by its resolution 51/210 should continue during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly from 25 September to 6 October 2000, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee.

9. In view of the limited conference services available to the Sixth Committee, as indicated in paragraph 11 below, any meetings for working groups or for informal consultations would have to be accommodated in place of, rather than in addition to, meetings allocated to the Committee.

V. Deadline for submission of draft resolutions with financial implications

10. According to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, "no resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures

prepared by the Secretary-General". It is therefore imperative that the Sixth Committee allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimates of expenditure by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and by the Fifth Committee. Under the circumstances, if 21 November is accepted as the concluding date for the work of the Sixth Committee (see para. 5 above), 3 November 2000 would have to be considered as the mandatory deadline for submission to the Fifth Committee of draft resolutions with financial implications.

VI. Conference resources available

11. The available conference facilities will, in principle, enable the Committee to hold no more than nine plenary meetings per week and the working group referred to in paragraph 8 above to hold 10 meetings per week. Normally, morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

12. In order to avoid difficulties in the organization of services for the meetings of regional groups of the Committee, it is suggested that all requests for such meetings be channelled to the Planning and Meetings Services Section through the Secretary of the Committee.